

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Office of Private and Voluntary Cooperation
Program Title:	Local NGO Capacity Enhanced
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	963-002
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$23,038,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$1,976,000 DA
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$24,200,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2003
Year of Final Obligation:	2007

Summary: The objective of the program is to enhance nongovernmental organization (NGO) and local cooperative capacities to deliver development services in selected countries. PVC funding serves to identify best practices in organizational development that are then disseminated to USAID field missions and other offices that implement service delivery programs through local NGOs. By focusing on the organizational development aspects of service delivery in the field, the PVC Office supports the efforts of much of the rest of the Agency by focusing on how best to ensure the sustainability of the local organizations providing services over the longer term, thereby enhancing the efforts of other operating units, private voluntary organizations (PVOs) and NGOs in improving the technical aspects of service delivery.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

PVO, NGO and Cooperative Strengthening (\$18,338,000 DA; \$1,976,000 prior-year DA): Funding will be provided to PVOs and cooperatives to help strengthen the organizational capabilities of hundreds of local NGOs in a range of countries around the world. The purpose of these grants is to identify key organizational components (e.g., leadership, strategic planning, administration, customer responsiveness, financial management, resource identification and generation) of NGOs, cooperatives and networks of NGOs that require strengthening. The grants will also identify relative priorities and emphases among these organizational components and relative resource amounts necessary to ensure the greatest possible level of sustainability at the least cost and the highest possible standard of service delivery. Linkages between NGOs and NGO networks are also made, wherever feasible, with local governments, private sector enterprises, and local media to further ensure sustainability. Over 40 U.S. PVOs implement this program.

NGO Network Learning and Dissemination of Information (\$2 million DA): Funding will allow the continuation of a technical assistance program initiated in FY 2003. In FY 2004, this program will provide workshops, technical assistance and "innovation grants" to at least 16 selected NGO networks operating in at least eight countries worldwide to improve their advocacy skills (and expand into other selected skills areas in subsequent years of implementation). The NGO networks selected to participate will share their experiences and learn from one another. This program will also develop and disseminate information on organizational sustainability that will be available electronically to NGOs worldwide. In addition, field support to missions and other USAID operating units can be requested for tailored assistance in specific aspects of organizational development and sustainability related to local needs and issues. Primary cooperative agreement: Academy for Educational Development; primary sub-grantee: Management Systems International.

Transportation for Humanitarian Commodities (\$2.7 million DA): The Ocean Freight Reimbursement program provides small competitive grants to over 50 U.S. PVOs annually. Funds are used to reimburse the PVOs' costs to transport donated commodities, such as medical supplies, agricultural equipment, educational supplies and building equipment, to support their programs overseas. The Denton Program

allows PVOs and private citizens to use space available on U.S. military cargo airplanes to transport humanitarian goods and equipment to countries in need. Approximately 50 PVOs implement this program.

USAID expects the joint USAID and Peace Corps small grant program for grass-root community development activities to continue at approximately \$1.5 million.

FY 2005 Program:

PVO, NGO and Cooperative Strengthening (\$1,900 million DA): Grant funding will be provided to PVOs and cooperatives to strengthen the organizational capabilities of local NGOs and cooperatives. New grants may be added, as the initial grant experiences begin to demonstrate lessons learned and potentially raise previously unasked organizational questions that could benefit from further pilot testing and research in the field. Linkages between NGOs and networks and private sector, local governments and local media will be encouraged wherever possible. Approximately 40 PVOs and cooperatives will implement this program.

NGO Network Learning and Dissemination of Information (\$2.5 million DA): Funding will allow the continuation of workshops, technical assistance, and "innovation grants" to selected NGO networks worldwide. The skills focus will expand from advocacy skills to include monitoring and evaluation skills. The collection and dissemination of information on organizational development and sustainability will continue and expand in FY 2005 as the data base on PVC and other experiences with NGOs and NGO networks grows. The principal grantee is the Academy for Educational Development; the primary sub-grantee is Management Systems International.

Transportation of Humanitarian Commodities (\$2.7 million DA): The Ocean Freight Reimbursement and Denton programs will continue to provide transportation for humanitarian and development commodities to approximately 50 U.S. PVOs annually.

USAID expects the joint USAID and Peace Corps small grant program for grass-root community development activities to continue at the same funding level in FY 2005.

Performance and Results: This strategic objective was approved in early FY 2003 and represents a significant shift in PVC perspective from one focused primarily on the organizational skills of U.S. PVOs to one focused on local NGOs and networks in developing and post-conflict countries. All grant mechanisms noted above, except the two transportation mechanisms, are new in FY 2003 and 2004, based on this new strategic perspective. It is notable that, in the year between November 2002 and November 2003, the PVC Office finalized its new strategic plan, identified and obligated funds against new implementing mechanisms, and identified and put in place a performance management plan to monitor and verify results being achieved over the life of the strategic objective. While these first year achievements are largely procedural, the PVC Office is now well-positioned to begin achieving results and to measure those results over the remaining four years of the life of this strategic objective.

While this strategic objective is new, previous, PVO matching grant experiences under the previous strategic objective have, of course, been addressing NGO strengthening over the years, albeit in a less direct way than under the new mechanisms now in place. In response to a recent survey of PVO grantees, 86% state they are already reviewing and assessing the organizational strengths and weaknesses of their local NGO partners. Of this 86%, 96% say they work with these NGO partners to overcome organizational weaknesses as they are identified. Sixty-one percent of the PVC Office's PVO grantees also have observed improvements in their NGO partners' capacities as a result of the NGOs' involvement in networks of similar organizations. As new PVO grantees begin to more systematically address the organizational needs and circumstances of NGOs in a wide variety of countries, including post-conflict, the PVC Office anticipates being able to demonstrate cost-effective methodological approaches and priorities in different development circumstances.